

**SPECIAL SESSION
September 13, 2004**

The Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County, Arizona convened in Special Session at 12:30 P.M., Monday, September 13, 2004, in the 4th Avenue Jail, 4th Avenue & Madison, Phoenix, Arizona, 85003, with the following members present: Andrew Kunasek, Chairman, District 3; Max W. Wilson, District 4, and Mary Rose Wilcox, District 5. Absent: Fulton Brock, District 1, Don Stapley, District 2. Also present: Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board, Monica Farine, Minutes Coordinator, David Smith, County Administrative Officer and Paul Golab, Deputy County Attorney.

OPENING CEREMONY FOR THE NEW 4TH AVENUE JAIL

The Opening Ceremony for the new 4th Avenue Jail was held in the new jail. Captain Johnson of the Sheriff's Office welcomed everyone to the facility. Captain Johnson explained this was a six-year project and thanked Sheriff Joe Arpaio and the Board of Supervisors for convincing citizens to fund this new jail. This modern jail is the largest of its type in of the United States with the largest intake area. Special thanks also went to Bob Calbert, contractor; McCarthy Construction; H & H District; George Roundy, CEO; E-Corridon; Heidi Birch, Director of Capital Facilities Development; Steve Mains; Austin Peterson; Bill Valentine, Architect; CT Mechanics; Sheriff Joe Arpaio; and Dave Hendershott, Chief Deputy, MCSO. Sheriff Joe Arpaio spoke stating this was the people's jail and thanked voters for approving the sales tax. He also thanked the Board of Supervisors for their support of this project and included David Smith, the County Administrative Officer, and Judge Campbell, Chief Presiding Judge. Even though the jails have been overcrowded for years, Sheriff Arpaio said his vacancy sign would never go down but the new jail offers relief from overcrowding. (ADM414)

In addition to the building itself, a number of specialty features have been included. Some enhance security and others increase efficiency and/or safety. The new booking system will allow officers to return to the streets in less time than before. This new jail is high tech with "bio iris" scanning equipment for inmates and employees, a sally port area with huge steel doors, and 23 booking stations to handle the volume. The design should reduce assaults against officers and inmates. The upper floors of the jail are not yet open, but the intake area is fully functional.

Chairman Kunasek also thanked the citizens who in 1998 voted to approve the jail tax. They were promised a quality facility, which is now about ninety days to completion. Although this project is one the Board hopes the voters and their loved ones will not use, they recognize the necessity to provide such a secure facility for the safety of all of the citizens of this county.

Supervisor Wilcox reflected when she joined Sheriff Arpaio and Captain Johnson in touring San Francisco and Santa Clara County to view their jails. The design team took the best features of the facilities they had toured and incorporated them into the design of this jail. For example, this state-of-the-art jail has plumbing located behind the cells for workmen to access without going into the common cells. Safety was an overriding issue in the entire project. There are underground tunnels from the jails to the courts for transporting inmates. In addition, this jail fits the appearance of the historic district. The glass block, which allows, "streaming light" made it possible to design maximum occupancy in this downtown city block.

Judge Campbell, presiding Maricopa County Judge, said when this new jail was planned, they designed it to copy the old courthouse concept with cells on the upper floors and courtrooms on the lower levels. The idea was to have courts in the jails with public entranceways. There are initial appearance courts and probation revocation court areas, which provide fewer delays and greater safety to all.

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Supervisor Wilson also commented on the safety and efficiency measures offered by this new jail. He said it is sometimes difficult to separate the "wants" from the "needs" when new projects are presented to the Board from various county departments. This outstanding facility is an example of good planning to meet a tremendous need in the County.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Andrew Kunasek, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board